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Department of Transportation - Aeronautics Division

Vol. 44 No. 3

APRIL 1993

'93 Aviation Conference A Success

An inspiring program and great weather brought nearly 700 aviation junkies to Missoula for the 1993 Montana Aviation Conference held February 24-27 at the Holiday Inn.

A variety of speakers conducted an extremely interesting mix of seminars and concurrent sessions.

They were headlined by:

- **Dave Sclair**, General Aviation News & Flyer, who sounded a note of optimism for general aviation's future.
- **Dr. Jerry Cockrell** contributed an entertaining and powerful presentation
- **Richard Taylor and Pat Epps** of the Greenland Expedition Society told what life on an icecap is all about
- **Major Rhonda Cornum** shared her story of being captured during Desert Storm.

Thirty-three aviation firms filled the exhibit area with interesting displays of the latest in aviation products and services.

These firms also donated thousands of dollars worth of door prizes which were given away during the Conference.

Many other generous sponsors contributed to events held at the Conference.

The Montana Aeronautics Division and Missoula Host Committee would like to extend our sincere thanks to all those who worked so hard to make the 1993 Montana Aviation Conference an outstanding success.

The 1994 Conference will be held February 23-26, 1994 at the Holiday Inn in Billings.

The Billings Committee is already busily planning for that event. We'll plan to see you there!



New Board Members Appointed

The governor has just released, at press time, three appointments to the Montana Aeronautics Board.

The following were appointed to serve on the board:

- **Fred Booth**, Montana Pilots' Association;
- **Ron Mercer**, Montana Airport Management Association;
- **Byron Bayers**, County Commissioners Association.

The following members have been reappointed: Joel Fenger, Montana Chamber of Commerce; and Doug Freeman, Montana League of Cities and Towns.

Ron Mercer will serve as Chairman of the Board. All terms will expire January 1, 1997.

An article featuring the new additions to the Board will in next month's issue of *Montana and the Sky*.

APRIL 1993

Administrator's Column

FAA Considering Proposal for IA's to Submit Inspection Reports: The FAA is considering a petition which would require A&P mechanics holding Inspection Authorization certificates to submit inspection reports to the FAA Aircraft Registry in Oklahoma City upon completion of an annual inspection.

This really isn't anything new as IA's were required to do this very thing until several years ago when the FAA felt that such a report was not necessary. I agree that such reporting is unnecessary and that it would require additional FAA personnel resources plus additional paperwork for the IA's which the taxpayer and customer will have to pay.

If you IA's have strong feelings on this issue you should write to: FAA, Office of the Chief Council, Attn: Rules Docket No. 27090, 800 Independence Ave. SW, Washington DC 20591. You will need to submit your letter plus two copies. The deadline is April 13. If you need additional information, you may contact Michael Smith in the Office of Rulemaking at (202) 267-7470.



FAA Gives Grant for EAA Fuel Testing: The Federal Aviation Administration has given the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) a \$25,000 grant to conduct research into expanded use of auto fuels in aircraft. Development of an unleaded high octane gasoline is needed to replace the highly leaded 100LL aviation fuel. In order to reduce pollution the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has mandated that blends be utilized to eliminate lead in the fuel. One of the blends is "ethanol" which is an alcohol additive the FAA prohibits in aircraft engines. Research will be conducted at the Florida Institute of Technology under the supervision of EAA's Harry Zeisloft. Mr. Zeisloft is Technical Director for the EAA and was responsible for the auto fuel and subsequent FAA approval of auto fuels in certain aircraft engines.



FAA's Age 60 Rule Unfounded: The FAA's own financed study contradicts their (FAA's) age 60 prohibition against pilots flying for commercial airlines. The independent study was conducted for the FAA's Civil Aeromedical Institute in Oklahoma City and found no correlation between pilot age and accidents until about age 70. The FAA has declined to comment on the study.



Congratulations to Missoula Aviation Conference Workers On behalf of the Aeronautics Board and Division, I would like to thank and congratulate Kevin Grenier, Chairman and the Missoula Host Committee volunteers for a very successful 1993 aviation conference. I also wish to recognize and thank Debbie Alke who acts as Conference Coordinator and the other Division staff. Everyone worked very hard to make this conference interesting, educational and fun for all who attended.



Montana and the Sky

Department of Transportation

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John Rothwell, Director

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Aeronautics Board

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Joel Fenger, Member

Leland Ford, Member

Douglas Freeman, Member

Greg Mecklenburg, Member

Sharel Stroh, Member

George Teslovick, Member

Byron Bayers, Member

Fred Booth, Member

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Fund Raiser Receives Awesome Response

Many thanks to all of you who donated \$2 to obtain a "stick-on" airplane at the State Aviation Conference. This year \$924 was generously donated by many in attendance at the Conference.

Mr. and Mrs. Willy Rimby, winners of two round-trip tickets donated to the Conference by Skywest Airlines, chose to auction off these tickets and donate the proceeds to this EAA scholarship fund. Frank Bass was the auctioneer and Bob and Peggy Lipscomb the successful bidder. Thanks to the Rimbys and Lipscombs for contributing the \$250 received for the airline tickets.

Other welcomed donations included \$100 from both the Inland Empire Chapter of the Washington Pilot's Association and an anonymous donor from the Federal Aviation Administration.

The Montana Airport Management Association has offered a challenge to other Montana aviation organizations and will match any donation up to \$200.

The donations are used to send a young Montanan to the EAA Air Academy held each July in Oshkosh, WI. The Aeronautics Division sponsors an aviation awareness art contest and the senior division winner is awarded the trip which includes tuition to the academy.

As in past years, Northwest Airlines has willingly agreed to provide complimentary round-trip air transportation to Oshkosh for the lucky winner. Thanks Northwest Airlines for your kindness and support of this important aviation education program.

A big thanks to all of you who give so generously to help make a young Montanan's dream come true!!

Art Contest Deadline

The 1993 Aviation Awareness Art Contest sponsored by the Montana Aeronautics Division is underway. The contest is open to students in grades 1 through 12 with prizes awarded to the winner in each of the three categories (Gr. 1-4, Gr. 5-8, Gr. 9-12).

If you know a student who has a special interest in aviation encourage them to enter. You need not be a great artist to participate. Entries are judged on subject narrative as well as artwork.

Contest notification has been mailed to all schools. To obtain complete entry requirements contact your school counselor or the Division. Entries must be mailed to the Division at: P.O. Box 5178, Helena, MT 59604 and must be received by April 23.

RMC Aviation Banquet

The Rocky Mountain College Aviation Club is sponsoring a banquet for the aviation community on Saturday, April 17 at 6:30 at the Elk's Club in Billings. The guest speaker will be Walt Coleman, President, Regional Airlines Association, Washington DC.

Walt served as Vice-President for Operations of the Air Transport Associa-

tion of American prior to his current position. He is a former Naval Aviator and Pan American Airline pilot. He will bring an excellent perspective of changes that are taking place in the aviation industry and directions the new administration may take regarding aviation issues.

You are all invited to join the RMC aviation students for this special event.

Calendar

April 17 - Aviation Banquet, Elks Club, Billings - Call Dave Kimball, RMC 657-1060.

May 29 - 31 - Benchmark Work Session.

June 5 - Miles City Fly-in.

June 7 - 18 - Aerospace Teacher Workshops.

June 12 - EAA Chapter 57 4th Annual Fly-in, Laurel.

July 1 - 4 - 6th Annual Family Fun Fly-in and Flight Safety Expo, Helena Regional Airport.

July 16 - 18 - Schafer Meadows Work Session.

July 25 - 31 - Region 8 Soaring Championships, Livingston. Call Steve Ard 388-6887.

July 29 - August 4 - 41st Annual EAA Fly-in Convention, Oshkosh, WI.

August 6 - 8 - MAAA Fly-in, Three Forks.

August 28 - Kalispell Air Show, Kalispell City Airport.

Sept. 3 - 6 - Fly-in, Yellowstone Airport, West Yellowstone.

Sept. 17 - 19 - Mountain Search Pilot Clinic, Kalispell.

Feb. 4 - 6, 1994 - Flight Instructor Refresher Clinic, Helena.

Feb. 23 - 26, 1994 - Montana Aviation Conference, Billings.

Approximately 70 students are currently enrolled in Rocky's aviation program and are taking flight training in preparation for careers in aviation. The program will include recognition of student achievements.

Reservations may be made by calling the school's Public Relations office at (800) 877-9751, ext. 1008 or 657-1008. Price of tickets is \$15.

Memories of 1993 Conference



Marv Dye, Director, Department of Transportation, Lt. Governor Dennis Rehberg and Representative Bob Gilbert (l to r) attended the kick-off luncheon to help welcome the Montana aviation community and others to the ninth annual conference.



Dave Sclair, Co-Publisher General Aviation News & Flyer inspired those at the kick-off luncheon with his enthusiastic opinions and forecasts for general aviation. Kevin Grenier presents Dave with a Monte Dolack print.



Wendy Cromwell wears one of her "many hats" and maintains the registration desk. A special thanks to others who assisted with registration: Ralph Klawitter, Harley Getter, Patty Kautz, Janie Richardson and Cathy Simkins.



The Aeronautics Board held an informative Question and Answer session. Pictured left to right are board members George Teslovick, Lee Ford, Joel Fenger, Sharel Stroh and Doug Freeman.



Missoula conference committee volunteers Glenn Weaver of Minuteman Aviation and Kevin Grenier of Aerotronics draw the lucky door prize winners at Friday's strolling lunch.

Note: Following issues will contain more conference photos



The experience and expertise of speakers attending the conference was exceptional. A sample of those speakers include: Moe Baile, Regional Aviation Safety Officer, Transport Canada; Ed Lachendro, Young Eagles Program Coordinator, EAA Aviation Foundation; and Jim Damron, non-stop, coast-to-coast record holder (l to r).



Exhibitors are an important and appreciated facet of the aviation conference. Harold and Zola Hamm visit with Mike Lotzer of Rapco, Inc., from Hartland, WI.



These happy exhibitors Frank Carpenter, Sarah Johnson and Dave Walmsley are the friendly Turbo West representatives from Broomfield, CO.



Gary Hunt of Conoco at Billings speaks with Ed Croymans, City Service, Inc. of Kalispell.



Frank Gurko, Champion Aviation, discusses his latest products with these interested Montana Pilot Association members, Merrill Pearcy, Bailey Eagan and Ted McPherson. Frank visits us each year from Morgan Hill, CA.

Flight Instructor Refresher Clinic

By: Redge Meierhenry
Aviation Representative

Each year the Aeronautics Division sponsors a Flight Instructor Refresher Clinic. The 24-hour course this February was taught by G.A.I.T.S. Aviation, Inc. from Milwaukee, WI.

Aeronautics involvement in these clinics is a long history, originating the first flight instructor refresher course in the nation here in Montana.

In the early days, Aeronautics would not only pay for the instructors course but also provide both rental aircraft and instructors to facilitate a comprehensive flight review for the attendees.

Today of course, the FAA mandates course material and we now contract with two companies to provide these clinics.

We manage the contracts to provide one contractor for two consecutive year seminars so instructors don't see the same seminar twice in a row.

In this way, variety enhances the in-

structors learning experience.

Course evaluations from the recently held class were enthusiastic. Of the 24-hours of instruction, the overall favorite is the mini-workshops which places the instructors in groups of five to seven people.

Each group is given different subject areas to research and present the information to the class. This gives us all a chance to participate and interact with our peers.

At course completion, instructors receive their graduation certificates, FAA Temporary Certificate Renewal and we think most prized, a specially designed Montana "wings" tie clasp.

These pins were designed and copyrighted by the first Aeronautics Director, Frank Wiley.

Each pin is sequentially numbered and only given once to each flight instructor who is a Montana resident and completes the Montana Aeronautics Flight Instructor Refresher Clinic.

Congratulations Amy!



Amy Burger, Helena, soloed February 5. She gets her "tails" cut by her instructor and dad, Rick Burger.

Amy was the senior division winner of the 1992 Aviation Awareness Art Contest and thus awarded a scholarship provided by the Montana aviation community, Aeronautics Division, MAMA and Northwest Airlines. Amy is a senior at Capitol High.

In Memory of Dave Kneedler

Dave Kneedler passed away February 9 in Renton, WA. He worked for the Montana Aeronautics Division as an engineer, serving as the Chief of the Airport/Airways Bureau until his retirement in 1989.

While with the Aeronautics Division Dave administered the hospital heliport program which ultimately provided state institutions and hospitals with emergency helicopters. He worked with communities providing airport site investigations, a state system of airports navigation and other aeronautical facilities.

Dave was a member of the Montana Airports Managers Association, International Northwest Aviation Council, Airport Technical Committee of NASAO and was an aviation advisor to the 1974 Transportation Study Advisory Committee.





Past and present board members gather to discuss legislative issues affecting the industry at AMAA's annual meeting.



Leo Giacometto, Director, Department of Agriculture addressed participants at the banquet.

AMAA Gathers

The second annual Association of Montana Aerial Applicators (AMAA) convention was held January 25-26 at the Heritage Inn at Great Falls. Over 70 participants attended.

The convention offers recertification courses for aerial applicators and convenes following the Montana Agricultural Business Association convention, allowing both associations to share the trade show area.

Newly elected officers and board members are: Bill Sheets, President; Mike Biggerstaff, Vice-President; Jim Heppner, Secretary/Treasurer; and Boyd Morgan, Andy Taylor, Ron Rowland, Russell Peterson and Buster Ness, Board Members.



Re-elected President Bill Sheets offers his comments regarding the new year to attendees.

In Memory of Fellow Idaho Aviator Merrill Christensen

A long-time friend to aviation Merrill Christensen passed away on February 25. Merrill ran Rexburg Air Service at the Rexburg, ID airport for over 30 years. He was a mechanic, builder, friend and fueler.

Even since his retirement in 1992, Merrill found a home in another hangar and was always there with his vast reservoir of knowledge, aviation gossip and storage bin of parts.

Merrill always participated in Montana aviation events and looked forward to attending the aviation conference each year.

Merrill will be missed by the aviation community. A memorial scholarship in Merrill's name has been established at the Idaho State University Aviation Maintenance School. Donations should be sent to: The ISU Foundation, Gifts Receiving Office, ISU Administration Building, RM 264, Campus Box 8050, Pocatello, ID 83209.

T-Shirts and Books Available

For those of you who wish to purchase a 1993 Montana Aviation Conference t-shirt, it's not too late. Shirts can be obtained by sending \$10, payable to AOM, to the Aeronautics Division at P.O. Box 5178, Helena, MT 59604.

There are also a few copies of *She Went to War* available. Books are autographed by Major Rhonda Comum. Send \$19.95 payable to the Montana Aeronautics Division to the above address.

Thank you for your support.

FAA Issues Certificates

Private

Brente Bliss	Dutton
Michael Cavey	Bozeman
Gregory Duncan	Montana City
Derek Matheson	Conrad

ATP

Richard Palmersheim	Billings
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Commercial

Charles Jones	Helena
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Gail Sanchez	Bozeman
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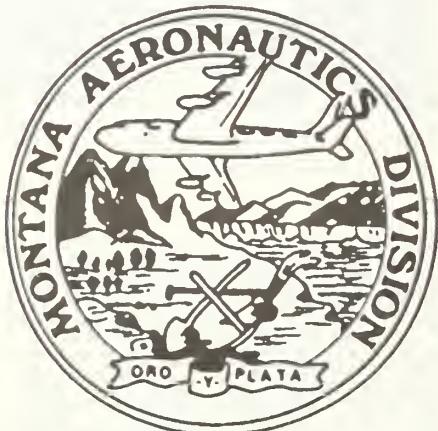
Henry Alme	Cut Bank
Harry Andersen	Missoula
Richard Burger	Helena
Rose Marie Bushbom	Livingston
Edward Chinske	Havre
Donald Dolan	Helena
Timothy Dwyer	Havre
Harold Graf	Great Falls
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Raymond Ross	Bozeman
Ben Roy	Belgrade
David Simon	Butte
Mark Simon	Billings
Jerry Weibert	Hardin
William Woodhouse	Power

Harlowton	Helena
Bozeman	Belgrade
Butte	Billings
Hardin	Power

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